

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSM-03 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 /062 W  
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R 131300Z SEP 77  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9371  
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
USMISSION SINAI  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
NSC WHITE HOUSE  
USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EG, US, IS, XF, PLO  
SUBJECT: "NEW" U.S. POSITION FEATURED IN CAIRO PRESS

REF: CAIRO 15136

1. SUMMARY: DAILIES PLAY UP DEPARTMENT STATEMENT THAT PALESTINIANS MUST BE REPRESENTED AT GENEVA AND HOMELAND ESTABLISHED. ALSO SANGUINE ON U.S.-PLO DIALOGUE AND EGYPTIAN-PLO RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH DIFFERENCES WITH SYRIA INFERABLE. ISRAELI STOCK SEEN FALLING; ERGO ITS RESORT TO "MANEUVERS" SUCH AS "STERILE PEACE PLAN" AND FALSE ACCUSATIONS THAT EGYPT HAS VIOLATED SINAI II. GAZETTER CRITICIZES PRESIDENT CARTER'S RELUC-  
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TANCE TO FOLLOW THROUGH WITH PEACE EFFORTS. PRESS TREATMENT AND PRIVATE COMMENTS INDICATE GROWING EGYPTIAN FEAR THAT THEIR GRIP TIGHTENING ON EMPTY BAG. END SUMMARY.

2. BIG NEWS IN CAIRO SEPTEMBER 13 WAS OFFICIAL U.S. STATEMENT "AFFIRMING FOR FIRST TIME" THAT PALESTINIANS MUST BE REPRESENTED AT GENEVA (AHRAM BANNER). AS CARRIED HERE, DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN

SAID:

-- PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS OF PEACE PROCESS;  
-- TO BE LASTING, PEACE AGREEMENT MUST HAVE SUPPORT OF ALL PARTIES INCLUDING PALESTINIANS;  
-- U.S. HAS BEEN EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF PALESTINIAN PARTICIPATION IN CONTACTS WITH CONFRONTATION STATES AND SAUDIS. PLO VIEWS BEING CONVEYED TO USG INDIRECTLY;  
-- U.S. WOULD IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH DIALOGUE WITH PLO IF IT ACCEPTED 242;  
-- U.S. "STRONGLY BELIEVES" RECONVENING GENEVA POSSIBLE BEFORE END OF YEAR;  
-- U.S. BELIEVES PALESTINIAN HOMELAND NECESSARY FOR SOLUTION OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM.  
"INFORMED SOURCES" DESCRIBE AMERICAN STATEMENT AS ATTEMPT TO ATTRACT PLO ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION 242 TO QUALIFY PLO FOR REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA.

3. U.S.-PLO DIALOGUE. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, PRESS HABITUALLY FLOATING STORIES OF U.S. ATTEMPT ENGAGE PLO IN DIALOGUE. LIMITED CIRCULATION AL SIYASI CLAIMS THAT CONTACTS CONTINUING THROUGH AMBASSADOR EILTS IN CAIRO AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG AT UN AND THAT AMBASSADOR EILTS RELATING RESULTS OF CONTACTS TO "ARAB CIRCLES".

4. PLO-EGYPT. AS ALWAYS, PRESS SEIZES ON PLO STATEMENTS SUPPORT-  
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TIVE OF EGYPT AT EXPENSE OF SYRIA. LATEST IS COMMENT BY KHALID EL-HASSAN CRITICIZING AS IRRESPONSIBLE ZUHAYR MOHSIN ATTACK ON EGYPT AND SAUDI ARABIA, AND PRAISING EGYPTIAN AND SAUDI SUPPORT FOR PALESTINIANS. DESPITE FAHMY RECENT DENIAL OF ANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SYRIA AND EGYPT AT AL COUNCIL MEETING, IMPLICATION IN PRESS TREATMENT IS THAT RIFT CONTINUES.

5. COMMENTARY. ARABIC LANGUAGE PAPERS SEPTEMBER 13 WAX BEARISH ON ISRAELI POLITICAL STOCK IN INTERNATIONAL MARKET. ISRAEL NOW FORCED TO RESORT TO MANEUVERS SUCH AS ITS STERILE PEACE PLAN AND ALLEGATIONS THAT EGYPT VIOLATING SINAI AGREEMENT. SUCH MANEUVERS REVEAL BANKRUPTCY OF ISRAELI CONCEPT OF PEACE AND "ELIMINATE ANY MORAL EXCUSES FOR THOSE WHO SPEND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND TENS OF YEARS IN DEFENSE OF ISRAELI (SO CALLED) RIGHT TO EXISTENCE."

6. ALLEGED FAHMY-DAYAN MEETING. GOE HAS OFFICIAL DENIED FAHMY HAS ANY PLAN TO MEET WITH DAYAN IN U.S.

7. ENGLISH LANGUAGE. GAZETTE REVIEWS RECENT STATEMENTS ON U.S. DETERMINATION TO BRING ABOUT PROGRESS, CONTRASTING THEM WITH PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS ON RELUCTANCE TO

CONTINUE INTENSIVE EFFORTS IF PARTIES SHOW INSUFFICIENT INTEREST IN SETTLEMENT. GAZETTE ARGUED AT LENGTH THAT POSITION (A) ENCOURAGES TOUGHER ISRAELI LINE, (B) RIDICULES ARABS' "TREMENDOUS CONCESSIONS", (C) DEEPLY UNDERMINES POSSIBILITIES FOR PEACE AND INCREASES LIKELIHOOD OF A FIFTH WAR, AND (D) IS DETRIMENTAL TO U.S. MORAL COMMITMENTS TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

7. COMMENT: TREATMENT REFLECTS EGYPTIANS GRASPING AT STRAWS IN EFFORT ELIMINATE, BY SHEER OPTIMISM, WHAT THEY PERCEIVE TO BE A LACK OF U.S. ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF ARAB MODERATION. PAPERS THUS PORTRAY AS MAJOR NEW STEP WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY RESTATEMENT OF U.S. POSITION AND ALSO IGNORE PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS THAT HE NOT NECESSARILY COMMITTED TO HIS PREVIOUS COM-  
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MENTS ON SEPARATE PALESTINIAN HOMELAND LINKED TO JORDAN. INCREASINGLY, OUR CONTACTS EXPRESS MYSTIFICATION AT WHAT U.S. UP TO, AND FEAR THAT EGYPTIAN GRIP TIGHTENING ON EMPTY BAG. THEY DESPERATELY HOPE THAT WASHINGTON-NEW YORK DISCUSSIONS WILL DEMONSTRATE U.S. DETERMINATION TO PUSH PEACE PROCESS FORWARD. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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